

2250 Florida Boulevard
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
PHONE: 225.389.8920



EXECUTIVE STAFF

Bill Deville
Chief Executive Officer

Charles Odingbe
Deputy Chief Executive Officer

Dwana Williams
Chief Operations Officer

EXECUTIVE REPORT

October 2019

Bill Deville and Executive Staff

AGENCY UPDATES: *Bill Deville*

- CATS has been running Touchdown Express for home football games. Through three non-conference games, the service has transported 1,206 customers.
- CATS has completed repairs of the holes and cracks at the terminal and has installed new trash bins to enhance the aesthetic. The platform and surrounding areas have also been pressure washed.
- Substantial work has been done to the new bus wash bays, and the agency is working on improved lighting; there will also be new paint for the walls.
- Holes in the bus parking area have been repaired.
- Operators are debuting new uniforms that will be effective October 15th.
- The buses will be detailed beginning October 19th.
- A draft for a CEA for additional employee parking has been completed and the agency is seeking a contractor to perform the work.
- The agency is implementing an "inform not enforce" campaign with operators where their focus will be shifted to improving on-time performance as well as operator-customer encounters.
- After a successful and informative Planning Committee meeting on October 3rd, CATS has begun reaching out to the City-Parish to move forward with the I110 Transit Center.
- CATS is participating in the Senior Expo at the Raising Cane's River Center on October 11th. Representatives from the agency will be onsite to educate seniors on the system and ways to connect them to local events.
- The annual CATS/Healthy Blue Health Fair will be October 18th at the CATS Terminal. This yearly event brings various healthcare providers, screenings, and other resources directly to the community and CATS customers.

HUMAN RESOURCES: *Jim Fight*

- CATS interviewed candidates for bus operator on Wednesday, October 9th. A new training class is scheduled to begin in late October.

OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE: *Dwana Williams*

- We currently have 129 active operators working. There are 148 total operators; the remaining operators are on FMLA and light duty.
- See attached Performance Measures.

CEO NOTES: *Bill Deville*

- **ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE FACILITIES: *Bill Deville***
 - Management has executed a 36 month lease for the 350 Donmoor Avenue office building within the parameters approved by the Board at the September board meeting.

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- Staff arranged to have power turned on, and professional commercial inspections were completed; currently telephone and computer equipment and services are being installed.
- Kudos to Ms. Pearlina Thomas who aggressively, but carefully, negotiated the lease within the parameters provided by Board authority, and even got the real estate firm to allow immediate access and use to achieve what was needed to get employees moved as soon as possible.
- Kudos to the Facilities group of employees, under the direction of Ms. Vanessa Dargin, for their tireless work efforts in very hot conditions, traversing five and nine flights of stairs numerous times to move files, some furniture, accessories, and lots of “stuff”.
- Congressman Graves’s office is scheduling a follow up meeting, in-district, on November 4th, around a potential ride-sharing pilot for paratransit service that they have been working on.
- CATS expects federal legislation regarding future acquisitions of BYD electric buses; while BYD has manufacturing plants in USA and pass all “Buy America” requirements, the agency has been advised to monitor future legislation.
- CATS was invited to attend the Earl K. Long Redevelopment steering committee that included in its agenda how CATS can become part of the fabric of providing transportation for the residents at this this mixed use facility and how to partner with the Baton Rouge Housing Authority to provide improved transportation for all of its residents throughout East Baton Rouge Parish.
- Attended Health Insurance Agent meeting regarding the renewal of employee health benefits proposal.
- CATS staff met with Baker Mayor Darnell Waites for stakeholder input on Microtransit service for the Baker zone; meetings with other stakeholders are ongoing.

PLANNING AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT:

- The Service Implementation Team will begin meeting weekly to discuss the February 2020 service changes.
- CATS is preparing a scope of work as well as schedule for a Comprehensive Operational Analysis (COA).
- A Transit Development Plan is ongoing.
- CATS is participating in the Baker Park and Ride in conjunction with the City of Baker and CRPC. The project is in the property acquisition phase.
- CATS will be meeting with the Downtown Development District to discuss locating a CATS Transit Center at I110 and Florida.
- The triennial review response is ongoing.
- CATS is awaiting word from FTA regarding the scheduling of the NEPA Environmental Workshop for the BRT Corridor. The tentative dates for the workshop are October 29th and 30th.

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- The award application is underway for the 2250 Florida/Florida Corridor TOD grant application.
- The Bus and Bus Facilities FY10 grant award is awaiting US DOT project selections.
- CATS is participating in MovEBR meetings.

FACILITIES PLANNING: *Bill Deville*

North Baton Rouge Transit Center:

- Legal counsel indicated that LSU and the Division of Administration have completed the process of notifying the previous owner(s) of the intent to sell the property. The title search is underway and closing is anticipated shortly.

East Baton Rouge Transit Center – Cortana-Walmart Transit Center:

- Construction is continues and is nearing completion.
- Construction punch list if remaining items is forthcoming..
- Ribbon cutting or other public relations event needs to be scheduled

BUS RAPID TRANSIT:

Plank Road BRT, Phase One:

- The environmental and NEPA process is underway. An environmental workshop is tentatively scheduled for October 29th or 30th, 2019.

Plank-Nicholson BRT, Phase Two:

- An environmental workshop is tentatively scheduled for October for 29th or 30th, 2019.

Finance: *Mr. John Cutrone*

- See attached financial report.





